BULLETIN FROM

Virginia Kirkus' Bookshop Service 439 East 51st Street

Vol. IX November 15, 1941 No. 22

FICTION

MUST BOOKS

January 19

Edmonds, Walter D. YOUNG AMES Little, Brown

* I liked this as well as any - and better than most of Walter Edmonds' excellent historical novels - character fiction set against realistically handled and authentically flavored backgrounds. New York city in those troubled days which bear so close an analogy to our own of the 33's and 34's, when Andrew Jackson was "that man in the White House", blamed for the panic, the bank failures, the shrinking of large incomes, unemployment, collapse of security, virtually every evil that could be spotted. It all has an ironically familiar ring, even to the fears that "he" would talk the country into war. So much for the psychological background; the physical background was New York, particularly as it concerned the world traffic played around the wharfs, as great shipping houses vied with each other for control of the cotton market, the rice market, etc. Well-paced plot, good characterization particularly in the minor characters, and a romance that could have been stereotyped in the handling and isn't-between the very junior clerk (with just a touch of "what makes Sammy run" in him) and the boss's daughter (in this case a niece). The street riots, the great fire, the innundation of immigrants with its resultant evils, all make it as good as a persual of Valentine's Manuals for incurable antiquarians. And a rattling good tale for moderns. $2.50

Forecasts of January Material

Good pop in John August's ADVANCE AGENT (Little, Brown); a C. S. Forester, published long ago in England, PAYMENT DEFERRED (Little, Brown); a good Struthers Burt, ALONG THESE STREETS (Scribner). Doubtful value in the new Upton Sinclair, DRAGON'S TEETH (Viking).

PROBLEMATICAL BOOKS: Fiction

December 26

Wylie, Philip THE OTHER HORSEMAN Farrar & Rinehart

The famous "four horsemen of the Apocalypse" were accompanied by a fifth, Reality, but to Reality small heed was paid. This is the symbol back of the story of Jimmy Bailey who returns from wartime England to his indifferent, isolationist, western home town. Boycotted by his parents and their country club set of America Firsters, witnessing his younger brother deliberately cracking himself up to avoid the draft, Bailey finds sympathy only in Corinth, with whom he is working on poison gases, and in Audrey, who pursues him. Wylie has a versatile skilled hand in working a good bit of international innuendo into the media of a light, pop novel. He makes it smooth reading, convincing and absorbing, as Jimmy's brother and sister finally recognize the truth, a life is sacrificed to save a secret formula, and Jimmy stays in the United States to help the cause he endorses. Good rentals - above average. $2.00

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January 21

August, John ADVANCE AGENT Little, Brown

* Good on all counts, this topnotch American romantic intrigue yarn, by a practised hand. Not particularly subtle nor original, just first rate reading. There is Lynn Scovil, mad for publicity and power and fronting a Nazi spy set-up in a college town in the Berkshires; there is Gail, whom he wants to marry, but who has been avoiding the issue; there is his daughter Connie, friend of Gail's and determined to prevent the marriage. The heat is on with the arrival of journalist Bill, whom Connie loves, and Garrett, an FBI plant in the shape of a German-escaped prisoner, who falls for Gail. The two manage to round up and shoot down the local Gestapo cluster. Easy renting. $2.50

Forester, C. S. PAYMENT DEFERRED Little, Brown

Yes, it is the story made familiar to the American public on stage and screen, but not hitherto published in novel form, in which it first appeared in England. It is, you remembdr, the story of a vapid bank clerk who descended to murder for the sake of a bank roll and immediate security, and who spent the rest of his life guarding the secret burial spot in the dingy city backyard, while his family ran riot on the money he more or less accidentally made on a fluke. The interest lies more in the development of the relations of the man to his down-trodden wife, his son and daughter; in the aftermath of murder. When eventually he is arrested and convicted of a murder he did not commit, the title is explained. To many who are not already thoroughly familiar with the dramatic production which gave Charles Laughton his first sensational success, this will read as a new book - in the Francis Iles tradition. Don't sell it, however, as a typical C. S. Forester - or you'll have disappointed customers. $2.50

~~January 22~~ February 5

Gorman, Herbert BRAVE GENERAL Farrar & Rinehart

A fictionization, on an authentic base, of the career of Georges Ernest Boulanger, once hero and hope of the Third French Republic. His popularity as Minister of War, in 1886, united all parties, and the *Boulangism* movement aroused nationalistic feeling and German fears. The story of a great love which destroyed a career - a star which set before it rose to glory, as his love for dcomed Marguerite Bonnemains took precedence, he is forced from the government, deprived of his army command, missed a chance at a coup d'etat when he won his seat as deputy at the polls - and eventually committed suicide when she died. The main story is told against sundry sub plots, especially the story of Lily, who rises from laundress to companion to Marguerite, and follower of Boulanger's downward spiral. Extensive and meticulous research somewhat overweights the movement of the story, making it a thinly fictionized study of a French hero in the political set-up of 1886 to 1891. ~~$2.75~~ 3.00

January 23

Nielsen, Virginia TRY TO FORGET ME Doubleday, Doran

A half tone better than the Greig-Ayres school, this story of Taffy who elopes at 16 with Renn, first and final love, to have her marriage promptly annulled by a disapproving mother. Five years later Renn returns from Peru to find Taffy engaged to a possessive, pompous banker - and eventually he resumes his rightful status. Straight rental fabric-women's wear. $2.00

Four January Titles - Uncertain Dates

Vaughan, Hilda ~~IRON AND GOLD~~ the fair woman 1-8-42 Duell, Sloan & Pearce

A poetic interpretation of a Welsh bard's story, the tale of the yearnings of Owain, singer and harpist, for beauty in the form of his love for one of the Fair Tribe. He wins her through his devotion and she turns mortal, warning him of the dangers of turning from ideal into human love, and of losing her forever if he should strike her thrice with iron and in anger. Owain is sure all will be well; their marriage is a success from a world angle, but he loses his love of singing, of beauty, recapturing them only in the rapture Glythin holds for him. But heedlessly, he strikes her twice; and then, overcome by his passion for a gypsy girl, a third time - losing her forever....A fairy tale, rooted in Welsh lore, symbolizing a sort of everyman of marriage, the loss of early ardors, the dimming appreciation of lifetime partners.
$2.50

Longstreet, Stephen THE GAY SISTERS 1/21 Random House

The author of *Decade* - and more recently of *Last Man Round the World* - has written a story this time in which the intricacies and chicaneries of the law overweigh the slender thread of plot. There's plenty of cynicism in his presentation of vulture lawyers sucking the blood from an estate which involves a succession of legal actions - of byplay and trading to keep the case in the courts, while lives of the litigants are wrecked, and proud names humbled. The Gaylord "girls" were three in number; the eldest, autocratic, proud, inflexible, concealed a shabby little romance of her youth and denied even to herself the love she still bore the father of the child she claimed to have adopted. Only when she found that her pride would cost her sister the last chance of happiness, did she humble herself - and then it is perhaps too late. Not a convincing story, nor are any of the characters real. There's a suggestion, perhaps, of the Wendell Case in the general tone of the set-up. Lawyers who are objective about some of the practices of their profession - and victims of the law will constitute the largest number of possible readers. $2.50

Burt, Struthers ALONG THESE STREETS 1-19 Scribner

Once again Burt has tapped the rich vein of his intimate knowledge of Philadelphia in this story which roots in its very being. Felix, an anthropologist whose passion for science has kept him on a single track through the years, inherits a fortune contingent on his living nine months a year in the home of his forebears. Reluctantly, he returns from the wilds and begins to rebuild his life along new patterns, learning to accept the responsibilities of his wealth, seeking purpose in the power it gives him and discovering that he isn't the misanthrope he had thought himself. Struthers Burt combines a sense of place and people and story, with a philosophical turn of mind and phrase that slows the story down for some readers, but adds savor for those who want something beyond plot. This ranks first as a portrait of a city, rather than as a novel; there is something of the bite of *Kitty Foyle* towards its people, tempered by a more mellow and urbane view of a city he both loves and hates. (Reported originally for November publication - page 527). $2.~~50~~ 75

Sinclair, Upton DRAGON'S TEETH 1/5 Viking

The saga of Lanny Budd goes on - this time compassing the years 1929-34, with the rise of the Nazi monster as the central theme. Lanny and his idealism come into sharp conflict with the worldly economic royalist viewpoint of his millionaire wife, Irma, who resents his championship of the downtrodden, particularly of the Jews in Nazi Germany. The main action involves successive trips into Germany in the endeavor to extricate the family of his half-sister from concentration camps and worse. There is nothing particularly new in content or manner. The book is meticulously de-

tailed as to the march of time; headline figures cross the pages; Zaharoff and the German rulers come into the picture repeatedly; and a strange twist, which seems to have comparatively little to do with the development of the story is introduced through the character of a spiritualist medium. Crowded canvas, with many of the characters from the earlier books - but little actual rounding out of situation or personalities. Lanny, since the first book, has remained for me a puppet, moved through his paces. And Sinclair seems to be incurably class and money conscious. $3.00

Little - and Late

Published

Goudge, Elisabeth THE WELL OF THE STAR Coward, McCann

This seems to be a year of tiny Christmas stories, and here is another. Once again, too, the familiar Gospel story of the shepherds and the wise men is extended to include a peasant lad, who meets St. Michael guarding the deserted flocks, and gains courage from him to go, alone, to the wishing well, there to wish for the wherewithal to bring food and medicine to his poverty stricken home. The wise men, kings from the Orient, meet him there, and he guides them to Bethlehem - and joins them in adoration of the infant saviour, giving as his gift, the shepherd's pipe, his one treasure. How he wins the wish of the well brings the story to its close. Not a particularly significant addition to Elisabeth Goudge's list of writings - and slight for the price. $.75

Mysteries, Westerns and Thrillers

Practically published

Hendryx, James B. GAMBLER'S CHANCE Carlton (Random House)

Mellerdrammer - as Andre dishonors Jacques, his brother, both in business and love, and drives him to hide his identity in the Far North. There, as greed sends Andre to locate a mine, all three meet again and Andre, having displayed his mercilessness, meets a horrible death, and Jacques regains his girl and his reputation. $2.00

Randolph, Marion GRIM GROW THE LILACS Henry Holt

Nicely set and sustained, this story of an artist coterie set on edge by the marriage of their patron to a cheap blonde who threatens to dispossess them of their berth. Animosity ends in murder of the new wife, and Mrs. Stevens, next door neighbor, steps in to save her friends. Not topnotch- but satisfying entertainment. $2.00

Vedder, John K. THE LAST DOORBELL Henry Holt

Tough type action tale, of the murder of the partner of a half-cracked and crooked trade journal publisher with missing shares of controlling stock in the firm as the basis for all troubleshooting. Members of the staff, and wives are involved and a young, wise-guy editor, brings things to a head and solution. Forced. $2.00

December 1

Keeler, Harry Stephen THE VANISHING GOLD TRUCK Dutton

Further Keeler concoction of complications and coincidences, which, as usual are unboildownable. This has to do with a circus wagon driver, out to catch up with his show and the woman he loves, of a gang stealing a gold delivery, of a sheriff helping the one and catching the other, etc.etc. Trickster contrivance, in dialect; which does not help. $2.00

December 3

Fair, A. A. DOUBLE OR QUITS Morrow

Bertha Cool - Donald Lam combination again scrapping through a double murder investigation and a fight to make the insurance company pay double on the line...Lam, holding out for partnership with Bertha, leaves her to grapple with the case, but since he has the stranglehold Bertha succumbs - and Donald takes the blame. He almost loses his life to the killer before the solution is achieved. The usual under-the-table deals, and fast action, California style. $2.00

January 5

Gardner, Erle Stanley THE D. A. COOKS A GOOSE Morrow

Doug Selby, Sheriff Brandon, Sylvia, Inez, the wily A. B. Carr - all together for the intricate problem of estate inheritance, murder, an auto accident, and a baby's future. With politics making Selby's efforts thankless, and Carr and Inez' clients completely uncooperative, Selby saves his skin on a hunch. Very brain twisting. $2.00

January 9

Barber, Willetta Ann & Schabelitz, R. F. DRAWN CONCLUSION: *A Christopher Storm Mystery* Doubleday, Doran

* Another Kit Storm and Sherry Locke case wherein Kit's sketches again prove to be the signposts that solve the killing of four people. A houseful, all hating one woman, are suspected when she is found murdered, and when three more go, Kit, having won the confidence of the local inspector, is able to tag the killer. Good. Ill'd. $2.00

January 21

Marquand, John P. LAST LAUGH, MR. MOTO Little, Brown

Bob Bolles was almost on the beach. He still had his boat and his colored hand. He found, incidentally, that he still had his loyalty to his country's interests, even though the naval board had passed him up. So, when he found himself on a tough spot with agents of three enemy countries, all out to use him while they got the mystery equipment secret from the hidden plane on a Caribbean island, he used his wits to foil them and to save himself. But in the end, Mr. Moto of Japan fooled them all. $2.00

January 23

Russell, Charlotte Murray THE MESSAGE OF THE MUTE DOG Doubleday, Doran

I'm no fan for fat Jane Amanda Edwards and her nosy curiosity which sticks itself into everyone's business. This time, it helps to solve the presence and absence of certain key people the night of a fire and a murder; the discovery of a code in the hollow figure of a dog; and the unravelling of Nazi machinations at a plant operating full time on defense. $2.00

January 26

Norman, James MURDER, CHOP CHOP Morrow

Extravagant, exotic specialty in the mystery-adventure line and cleverly camouflaged. Oriental occision in a fine game of Chinese checkers, which involves blackmail, forgery, China's favorite flower, and a racket of robbing dead soldiers of their safe deposit receipts. Quinto, giant Mexican guerilla with a brain to match his size, figures it out (which was beyond this reader). Originally reported Page 360. $2.00

MUST BOOKS

Practically published

Seabrook, William DOCTOR WOOD: *Wizard of the Laboratory* Harcourt, Brace

* "Physical optics" is, scientifically speaking, a world apart, so far as I am concerned, but I found this biography of its greatest exponent an exciting experience. Dr. Wood, genius, showman, practical joker - and sincerely conservative when it comes to the field of science proper, makes ideal material for Seabrook as biographer, for Seabrook, while not a scientist, has a faculty for seizing upon the dramatic, the human, and at the same time, for making the scientific aspects of his subject absorbing for readers whether versed in the subject themselves or not. En route to achieveing his successive goals in his special field, Dr. Wood has made signal contributions to civilization through his invention of the Electric Thaw, fish eye views, sundry phases in telescopes, photography, radio, motion pictures, color photography. The last war owed a debt to him in work down for the signal corps, in development of methods to determine hidden writing, in the measurement of the velocity of shells. Aerodynamics, today, has its debt to pay. He has made sensational exposes of electrical and medical hokum; bombs and murder mysteries. He has even done convincing experimentation in the psychological field in association memory fixation. Astrophysics, the application of ultraviolet and infrared rays and numerous other discoveries in the realm of physics are part of his fame. As a human being - aside from his scientific importance - he makes good reading, though, for his family and friends, he must at times make exhausting living. A book for anyone who likes life stories of interesting people, for all scientists interested in their fellow scientists, for older boys with a bent in the direction of frontiers of discovery. Illustrated by photographs.
$3.75

Odds and Ends - with Few Highspots

Tailend of a season, quantities of shifted dates and postponements, and a few late comers dropped into lists. Eleanor Early's SHE KNEW WHAT HE WANTED (Waverly House) may have a good popular sale - it's fun.

PROBLEMATICAL BOOKS - Non-fiction

Laing, Dilys Bennett ANOTHER ENGLAND Duell, Sloan & Pearce

A collection of lyrics by a new poet with a sharply individual imprint, stark desolate, compressed - with good effect. Her first group of poems, including the title poem, concerns today's "rupture of a world", bloodshed, poverty, hatred. Further poems deal with people, animals, New England scenes. In all there is a fatalistic awareness and acceptance of sorrow - as an everpresent force. Distinctive - with a faculty for the epigrammatic yet expressive turn of phrase. $2.00

Moody, Blair BOOM OR BUST Duell, Sloan & Pearce

A radio columnist and analyst writes of America's present and future economic must, expansion, as the only solution of recurrent depressions, the only preventative against a post-war stalemate. He shows that unemployment, the failure to utilize our resources, to distribute our products, were the only forms of squandering committed; he shows that there has never been any overproduction in this country, merely underconsumption for the large majority of the people. He shows that big business and the controllers caused dry rot at the top; he shows how money has been logjammed in their hands. Inflation can be controlled, he claims, through price ceilings, through planning; the sorespots of labor, of capital, of taxation, can be

eliminated through a unified program. The government's increasing debt is the life-blood of the country, stimulating a sevenfold profit. Whether in peace or war, for defense and after, larger production - larger distribution - the answer for the good of the many. Rebutts a good many of the Wall Street reactionary constrictionary arguments. A good book for men, persuasive, and given authenticity through basis on findings of Brookings and others. $2.50

Bercovici, Konrad IT'S THE GYPSY IN ME Prentice Hall

Roumanian-born, gypsy-loving writer tells his life history, from his childhood in Roumania, educated by his father, witness of Jewish persecutions, refugee to Paris, where music, labor and social conditions and political trends absorbed his time. Married and with his wife and first son, he came to America in 1916, where he earned his living at anything that came along. He published his first story in a recently acquired language - Yiddish - and lifted the lid of organized charity in his first English stories, of the lower east side of New York. Then the literary circles, authors, publishers, playwrights, actors; a shifting background from California to Connecticut and New York of the '20's. Then Europe, and viewing with alarm the situation developing in post-war years. Trips to interview national leaders, with plenty of gossipy tidbits. Cassandra role in America, greeted with disbelief, scepticism, only to be proved too true today. Much of Roumanian bigwiggery, - Marie, Carol, politics, etc. Many names in many fields, a warm and human picture of his wife and children, and throughout a tonic portrait of a socially conscious, outspoken personality. Colorful. $2.75

November 24

Orr, Fay FREIGHTER HOLIDAY Hastings House

To anyone who has taken to vagabondage by freighter, this record of four weeks on one of the smaller Aluminum Line freighters, bound from New Orleans to the Caribbean and South American ports, will prove nostalgic reading. The life on the freighter; the intimate - but always informally casual - relationship with officers, crew and other passengers. The adventures ashore, seeking to absorb the atmosphere of successive tropical islands in brief space of time, - Jamaica, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Barbadoes, Trinidad - and the British and Dutch Guianas - good travel material, simply told, with no attempt to be "literary", no attempt to be instructive - simply a shared enthusiasm, a contagion of enjoyment. Here's to more vagabonds. $2.50

November 25

Early, Eleanor SHE KNEW WHAT HE WANTED Waverly House

* This in the tradition of *Live Alone and Like It* and *Orchids on Your Budget* and it is entertainingly done and should prove a card in reserve for every girl with a kitchenette apartment, an incipient career and a normal urge for a normal life. The psychological setting, what to wear, how to live, and helpful hints for housekeeping. Light touch with undercurrent of sound commonsense and a modern slant. There are a good many enticing recipes for food and drink, though it is in no sense a cookbook. In format the book is less tempting than it might have been. The illustrations by Jane Miller suggest flippant valentines; the jacket is cheap and the color swears with the binding. Too bad - for the content is good and should have a chance for wide sales. $1.75

Early December

Green, Horace TRIUMPH George W. Stewart

The author of Grant's biography has used successive highspots of significance in Grant's career as scenes for a three act play. Sympathetic treatment of incidents

and character make the play good reading, but there seems to be insufficient action to qualify it as a vehicle for stage production. Introduction by Van Loon. $2.50

Wood, Marni PARTIES ON A SHOESTRING George W. Stewart

The party editor of *American Home* presents a seasonal round of good ideas for parties, with homemade decorations, budget planned menus, keyed to a collection of party food recipes. There are suggestions for games and entertainment - again for the most part home made. The format with each party occupying two page space, with lists of things needed on one side, menus in parallel column, and an introductory paragraph suggesting invitations, entertainment, procedure. Holidays, seasonal festivities, buffet parties, picnics, children's parties, showers, etc. A useful general coverage, though not a particularly original or inspiring book for one who is hunting new ideas. Sell on the limited budget angle. $1.50

December 1

Graf, Herbert THE OPERA Norton

A Viennese, now stage director of the Metropolitan Opera Association of New York and of the San Francisco Opera Company, writes a history of opera, from its roots in the Greek musical folk theatre to the changing aspects throughout the centuries. He pictures it as a reflection of changing society, and the present form, still clinging to dead traditions with hope that the future will bring the folk appeal alive once more. A more general survey than Brockway and Weinstock's *The Opera;* more critical in its view of the art and its place in the social structure. An analysis of the progress (?) from art to entertainment; the many facets, - music, writers, singers, scenery, ballet - and their varying modes; the nationalistic differences; the obstacles to security today with the new media of radio, television, films and a different audience. For a more advanced group of readers than the laymen constitute. Bring to attention of musical schools, study groups, teachers. Illustrated. $4.00

Chaffin, Lorah B. SONS OF THE WEST Caxton

All about Wyoming, and its pioneer personalities in many fields, trapping and trading and Indian fighting, stage driving and bull-whacking (frontier freighting), livestock and cattle, journalism, banking, jurisprudence and politics. The author has drawn on old records and annals, rewritten odd facts, historical and biographical, to form a background book on her native state. Limited largely to regional interest. $3.00

Cruse, Thomas APACHE DAYS AND AFTER Caxton

Reminiscences of an Army man, pretty dead level reading, which may have a certain - though slight - documentary interest. Cruse left the Point to go to frontier posts in Arizona and New Mexico, there engaging in skirmishes with the resentful, rebellious Apaches led by Geronimo, Victorio and the "Medicine Man" whose revivals led to insurrection. His later years brought work in the army supply line, from wagon and mule transportation during the Spanish-American War to a post as Quartermaster in the Philippines, and eventually his rise to Colonel and Brigadier General. The fact that the material is edited by Eugene Cunningham speaks for its authenticity. $3.50

January ~~12~~ 29

Richmond, Winifred V. MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR PERSONALITY Farrar & Rinehart

An authority on adolescence has written this book in such a way that it can be used with High School boys and girls, but is furthermore a book with which parents and anyone dealing with adolescents should be familiar. It is sound, helpful, worth-

while in its ideas on the morbid worries and fears of youth. Physical betterment, intelligence, emotion, the sex side of life, behavior and habits, motives, ideals, guides for efficient and happy life, vocations, human relationships - are among the subjects covered. The approach throughout is that by learning from specific analyses one gains better comprehension of human nature and general cooperation. She teaches that within the limitations of heredity and environment, conscious control can be acquired and applied to direct and control the energies. $1.75

January ??

Ley, Willy THE DAYS OF CREATION Modern Age

* The author of *The Lungfish and the Unicorn* needs no introduction to those who read that book, and who will eagerly seize upon this one. To those to whom the name is a new one, here is a scientist (zoologist, paleontologist) who has the faculty of making cosmic events thrillingly dramatic reading. Taking successive verses from the Biblical story of creation as a springboard, he has told in modern terms, the story of origins of the heavens, the earth, the sea, the land, and living species. He has dressed it up with the human elements, as scientist and theory come into conflict. Easier reading and even more entertaining than Hooten. $2.75

Ibarra, Francisco PAN-AMERICAN SPANISH SELF-TAUGHT 1/15 Random House

* For the home student this should be the answer to learning Castilian Spanish without the aid of teacher or classes. It is not a short cut book, for effort, practice and steady application are taken for granted, but the presentation is from pronunciation and vocabulary to grammar, rather than the reverse order, with plenty of excercises and conversations, in writing and in speaking. There are also vocabularies of specific Latin-American countries, where they differ from the Castilian. There is a Spanish-English and English-Spanish vocabulary; there is a special section on Portugese. A good job, both from angle of content and format. An important item today. $2.50

Goodman, Jack & Green, Alan HOW TO DO PRACTICALLY ANYTHING Feb 2. Simon & Schuster

This is one of the most important books for not learning anything you want to know about something. How not to go about your courtship, not to raise a dog, not to be a host for week-ends, not to drive a car, not to fish, not to move your household, not to exist in summer, not to be a father...all these and more are described by experts in being unsuccessful at any of them. In unrestrained, illogical, incomprehensible, inconclusive manner, they make nothing absolutely clear to nobody, and are usually amusing in the process. Good hostess book. George Price illustrations. $1.75 ✓

Egri, Lajos ~~THE THEATRE OF LIFE~~ How to Write a Play February Simon & Schuster

In simplified, accessible terms for the would-be-dramatist, here is a blueprint to playwriting. With each chapter on the basic elements is a question and answer section on qualifying points and an analysis of certain classic examples, old and new (from Ibsen, Moliere, O'Neill, Sherwood, etc.) The premise, character development, conflict, point of attack, climax and resolution, dialogue, exits and entrances, fully expanded and illustrated. Egri places the stress on psychology, a true understanding of characterization and motivation of plot through character. Good of its sort. $3.00

LAST MINUTE ARRIVALS - SORRY!

Bendix, Hans THE LADY WHO KEPT HER PROMISE American Artists Group

A "stocking book" on "the American melting pot, in words and pictures" by a voluntary exile from his native Denmark, an author-artist who in few words and cartoon drawings pays tribute to what America means to those who have lost freedom at home. The Francis Hackett introduction is of more significance than the text itself. $.50

Rogers, Virginia Horton BATHSHEBA Wilfred Funk

There is an emotional rhythm that carries one through the sweeping drama of this rendering of the age-old story of David and Bathsheba so that one is hardly conscious of the fact that the narrative poem is actually a sonnet sequence, with free verse prologue and epilogue. This emotional rhythm also merges the recurrent triteness of phrase and use of clichés in a flowing sense of the rightness of form chosen to lend freshness and poignancy to the tale, one of the great love stories of all time. Virginia Rogers has made a contribution to the year's slim sheaf of verse that makes her a poet to mark in the future. The publishers in this, their first venture in poetry, have given it an attractive format. Circulars available. $2.50

Cook, Gladys Emerson HIRAM *And Other Cats* Grosset & Dunlap

Companion to *Dogs Rough and Smooth* - for lovers of cats. This artist, well-known for her dog portraits, has equal facility in cat portraits, and she has woven sketches in line and colored full page illustrations of various types of cats into a story of Hiram, a large brown tiger tabby, and the cats he knows. The inclusions of verses about cats would seem - to this reader- to indicate that cats do not inspire good poetry. (Please note - reader - the coincidence of "tabby" and "he" is Gladys Cook's and not yours truly. Though I've had my share of toms turning maternal.)$1.00

Williams, Gurney - *ed.* COLLIER'S COLLECTS ITS WITS Harcourt, Brace

A gallery of wit, satire, humor, with political and social undertones and overtones, representing work by 103 cartoonists and 339 cartoons. With the inclusion of such masters as George Price, Crockett Johnson, Garrett Price, Gardner Rea, Larry Reynolds, Soglow, Richard Taylor etc. etc. it seems unfortunate that a trifle more selectivity could not have been exercised. However, there should surely be something for all tastes, though there seem to us a good many cartoons that aren't as clever on second sight as they seemed on first. $2.50

Bonnell, John Sutherland BRITONS UNDER FIRE Harper

The pastor of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church carried a message of faith and courage to the General Assembly of the Church in Scotland, and stayed long enough to experience and witness the determination, the spirit of the British. He visited churches, homes, shelters, factories, camps; he talked with all types of people; he came back with renewed faith not only in his religion but in the people who were living and dying for a holy cause. A splendid picture of the part religious faith is playing in the vortex of war - a human document not bound by tenets of a creed. $2.00

Perls, Klaus G. VLAMINCK Harper - Hyperion Press
Varga, Margit WALDO PEIRCE

Two volumes to add to the expanding shelf of art books, with fine reproductions, at reasonable prices. The text of the *Vlaminck* book is considerably concerned with the aesthetics of the French movement, and Vlaminck's place in that school. In the interpretation of the man and his work, the personal note is consistently struck. Even in reproduction of his landscapes and his "still life" one gets the characteristic sense of motion, implicit in his technique. Extensive bibliography. Full index of illustrations and plates...The text on *Waldo Peirce* is primarily biographical, with an almost overwhelming sense of the man in relation to his family, his friends and his art; his contradiction of his New England background, and his interpretation of it. More modern in point of time, there has been little written about him, so this should be a useful as well as a beautiful addition. $3.50

Allen, Edward & Kelley, F. Beverly FUN BY THE TON Hastings House

All about circus elephants - and good reading for those that have a passion for the pachyderms, by an old hand at the big top. His experiences and knowledge of these creatures explodes some long held ideas and advances lots of new information. From the history of elephants in the U. S., and famous individuals, to their training, breeding, doctoring, to killers and their deeds. This should be fun for circus lovers, young and old...Illustrated with lots of photographs (11/17) $2.50

Dodds, John THACKERAY Oxford

For the scholar's market primarily, but interesting, alive reading. A thoughtful, assured critical study of Thackeray, by a professor at Stanford University, - "criticism with some biographical infiltration". Early days in search of a profession - caricature and literary beginnings with book reviewing, satire, story telling, the Punch papers. Through these media the stamp of the man and future work can be seen - his "healthy antiseptic hatred for shabbiness and insincerity of spirit", his clear-sightedness, wholesome realism, harb, pity and awe. An analysis of the great works, - style, characters, motivation, significance. Should fill the need for a book on Thackeray. $3.00

Engle, Paul WEST OF MIDNIGHT Random House

Paul Engle has never - for me- reached again the peak of his first volume, *American Song*, but I like this new volume better than anything else he has done since that. There is more of today, more awareness of the function of the poet even to the sacrifice of the verse form in the intensity of his passion for America and liberty, sustained, restored. Even the nature poems revert to philosophical pondering on conditions. The Russo-Finnish War, from two angles, occupies the forefront, among the longer poems. Includes a good many fine lyrics. (11/17) $2.00

Scherman, Harry "THE LAST BEST HOPE OF EARTH" Random House

Sub-titled *A Philosophy of the War*, this is a somewhat idealistic approach to thoughtful consideration of a solution of world problems. From the premise that all nations are economically interdependent, and most nations culturally interlinked, he argues that here lies the basis for world union, even though it means a sacrifice of some sovereignty. A new form of League of Nations, with police authority, rooted in matters of common concern and interest. Scherman does not attempt to plot a program; he merely poses a problem and a solution. There is nothing world shaking, nothing very original in this, but it is obviously motivated by a sincere hope that nations will learn to live and work together for a better world, without thd danger of each generation facing its own world war. A slight book, with a real message and challenge. $.75

American Guide Series THE MINNESOTA ARROWHEAD COUNTRY Whitman

Again an excellent text, patterned along the lines successfully developed in the other volumes of this admirable series. The photographs are good, but less artistic in reproduction - straight half tone process on glossy paper, tipped in, while the text pages are printed on a rather coarse pulp paper, which gives a cheap look to the book. Nice homespun binding. Check for accuracy of collation. My copy had one whole signature upside-down. $2.50

PLEASE NOTE THESE CHANGES IN TITLE, DATE AND PRICE

Page

Harper
Train, A., Jr. - THE STORY OF EVERYDAY THINGS - postponed to 11/19 517

Knopf
Schuman, F. L. - DESIGN FOR POWER - from 12/1 to 1/5/42 565

Lippincott
Hoyt, A. M. - TOTO AND I - postponed to 11/19 499
Johnson, Osa - FOUR YEARS IN PARADISE - from 11/19 to 11/26 532

Morrow
Loosli, E. F. - PARALLEL SKIING - Price from $1.50 to $1.25 540

Scribner
Burt, Struthers - ALONG THESE STREETS - postponed to 1/?/42 527

THE NEW YORK OFFICE CALENDAR - DECEMBER 1ST TO 15TH

December 1 - Bemelmans, Ludwig - HOTEL SPLENDIDE (Viking) 530

December 5 - Heyer, Georgette - ENVIOUS CASCA (Doubleday, Doran) 558 7
Steinbeck & Ricketts - SEA OF CORTEZ (Viking) 530

December 8 - Seltzer, Charles A. - SO LONG, SUCKER (Doubleday, Doran) 558

Please Add These Titles To Your November Calendars

November 13- Seabrook, William - DOCTOR WOOD (Harcourt Brace) 584

November 21- Bercovici, Konrad - IT'S THE GYPSY IN ME (Prentice Hall) 585

November 25- Early, Eleanor - SHE KNEW WHAT HE WANTED (Waverly House) 585

I M P O R T A N T N O T I C E

The overrun on the Christmas lists was exhausted almost immediately.

Sorry we could not meet the demand in full.

Please save your sample and file for reference next September, so that you can get your order in ahead of the rush.

Thank you.

BULLETIN FROM

Virginia Kirkus' Bookshop Service 439 East 51st Street

Vol. IX November 15, 1941 No. 22

FALL JUVENILE SUPPLEMENT: No. 19

PICTURE STORY BOOKS

Benet, William Rose ADOLPHUS *Or The Adopted Dolphin* Houghton, Mifflin

This is a picture book (pictures by Marjorie Flack) - but neither verses nor pictures are keyed to children's interest. Rather is it a picture book for adults, with somewhat sophisticated drawings illustrating a ballad about a maiden on a pirate barque whose heart belonged to a poor sailor rescued by the dolphin that had been brought up by the porpoises (and acted accordingly). Ballad form and second rate at that. (Published.) $1.50

BOOKS TO READ ALOUD (6-9)

Field, Rachel CHRISTMAS TIME Macmillan

A collection of poems for Christmas, some of which have appeared in periodicals, some in other collections, but all brought together because of their holiday themes. A stocking book, charmingly illustrated with line and with jacket and frontispiece in two colors, and sold with matching envelope for mailing. Rachel Field has an unfailing faculty for catching the spirit of children's thought and understanding; and at the same time her verses have a basic quality which appeals to all ages. $.50

FIRST STEPS IN READING - Story Books

L'Hommedieu, Dorothy K. MACGREGOR *The Little Black Scottie* Lippincott

The author of *Rusty* and *Scampy* does her third dog story for children, out of the abundance of her experience and knowledge of dogs. As owner of Sand Spring Kennels and author of *The Practical Puppy Book*, she has quantities of authentic material on which to draw. This is the story of the adventurous Scottie who led the curious kittens astray, and got them into a tight spot. He's a cocky little puppy, very sure of himself, and very arrogant with the poor little kittens. Delightful pictures by Marguerite Kirmse, in color and in black and white. $1.50

FACT BOOKS FOR THE 9 -12's

Washburn, Stanley Jr. BAMBOO TO BOMBERS Whitman

A picture book of airplane history, patterned at the start on biographical milestones, from Leonardo da Vinci in 1500 AD to today and the dreams of the future. The last section of the book, after covering types of aircraft, goes into details such as parachutes, radio beam, etc. The Edward A. Wilson illustrations are decorative colored wood block type of pictures, rather than informative realistic pictures. The text has a tendency to talk in superlatives. It seems to me there are better books available, though this has a good deal of solid information. $1.00

FIFTEEN AND UP - Non-fiction

Graham, Fred. P. & Cleveland, Reginald M. — YOUNG AMERICA'S AVIATION ANNUAL 1941-1942 — McBride

* A list of the Table of Contents supplemented by the statement that the text is generously illustrated with fine photographs, charts and diagrams, is about all one needs to know about this excellent yearbook. There are over 200 new pictures, and a simple, clean-cut text, highlighting the developments in the changing world of the air, in so far as it is permitted. Covers a wide range of subjects, - military, naval and commercial aviation, research, weather, manufacturing, schools, instruments and aids, private planes and airports. Good piece of book-making. (11/21) $2.00

Daughtery, James - *designs by* — IN THE BEGINNING — Oxford

Adults and emotionally mature boys and girls will appreciate this rather extraordinary conception of the story of the Creation. Daugherty has a sweep and rhythm that almost demands more space than the compass of a book; and here is a magnificent subject for his art. I liked particularly the pages which were virtually all pattern rather than figures. Don't look upon this in any sense as a "juvenile". $2.00

ADULT BOOKS FOR OLDER BOYS AND GIRLS

Vassos, John — DOGS ARE LIKE THAT — Dutton

A natural appealing story of a man and his dogs, the man an illustrator, the dogs a shepherd dog, a Llewellyn setter, their loves and their litters. All sorts of experiences, amusing, sad, educational. Illustrated with lovely photographs. (For fuller report see page 560.) $2.50

Whipple, Leon — HOW TO UNDERSTAND CURRENT EVENTS — Harper

Blueprint for intelligent approach to the news, whether it be by newspaper, pictures or radio. Analysis of basic theories of presenting news, suggestions of approach, how to check, what to discount and why, how to balance propaganda against sources of information, purpose behind it, etc. (For fuller report see page 538.) $3.00

Ray, Ermin L. MD & Washburn, Stanley — ARE YOU FIT TO BE A PILOT? — Wilfred Funk

This is a game with a purpose, - to make possible for the youth hesitant about approaching the official tests without some sense of security in advance as to his passing, to give himself some tests. Charts, diagrams, experiments, with home equipment carefully described, for testing eyes, hearing, sense of balance, circulation, muscular coordination, ability to relax, etc. Ill'd with photographs, charts, diagrams, score sheet. (For fuller report see page 568.) $1.75

BOOKS FOR USE BY PARENTS AND TEACHERS

Johnson, Emilie Fendall — A LITTLE BOOK OF PRAYERS — Viking

This differs from the other books of prayers, of which there seems to be a rash this year, in containing for the most part original prayers, written for special seasons, or occasions, and for each day of the week. There is a running head of Bible texts, and there are some familiar psalms and classical prayers. Delicate decorative line drawings by the Petershams. Lovely all-over-patterned binding. (11/?) $1.00

BULLETIN FROM

Virginia Kirkus' Bookshop Service 439 East 51st Street

Vol. IX December 1, 1941 No. 23

FINAL FALL JUVENILE SUPPLEMENT: No. 20

PLEASE ADD THESE TITLES TO YOUR OCTOBER 1ST, 1941 CHECK LIST

Author	*Title*	*Publisher*	*Price*	*Page*
	GRADUATING TO PICTURE-STORY BOOKS			
Baruch, Dorothy	FOUR AIRPLANES	Holiday House	$1.00	574
Benet, William Rose	ADOLPHUS	Houghton Mifflin	1.50	591
Gramatky, Hardie	*LOOPY	Putnam	1.75	494
Grover, Beatrice B.	BROAD STRIPES AND BRIGHT STARS	Greystone	1.50	494
Mussey, Virginia Howell	FALLA	Howell Soskin	1.00	494
Rey, H. A.	HOW DO YOU GET THERE?	Houghton Mifflin	1.00	574
Sipprell, Helen	IF I HAD ALL THE MONEY IN THE WORLD	Macmillan	1.25	544
Steiner, Charlotte	PETE AND PETER	Doubleday, Doran	1.00	544
Wolo	*AMANDA	Morrow	2.00	544
	FIRST STEPS IN READING - *Story Books*			
Burton, Virginia	CALICO	Houghton Mifflin	1.00	544
Disney, Walt	DUMBO OF THE CIRCUS	Garden City	1.00	575
Disney, Walt	THE STORY OF CASEY JR.	Garden City	.50	575
Disney, Walt	THE STORY OF TIMOTHY'S HOUSE	Garden City	.50	575
Gilbert, Paul T.	ELMER BUYS A CIRCUS	Grosset & Dunlap	.50	495
Heal, Edith	MR. PINK	Messner	2.00	575
Jackson, Charlotte	*SARAH DEBORAH'S DAY	Dodd Mead	2.00	495
L'Hommedieu, Dorothy K.	MACGREGOR	Lippincott	1.50	591
Neill, John R.	THE SCALAWAGONS OF OZ	Reilly & Lee	1.50	596
Weiner, Leslie	ALAMEDA	Harper	1.00	544
	FIRST STEPS IN READING - *Fact Books*			
Hader, Berta & Elmer	LITTLE TOWN	Macmillan	2.00	597
Henry, Marguerite	PICTURED GEOGRAPHY	Whitman	.50ea.	575
	BOOKS TO READ ALOUD (6 - 9)			
Brown, Margaret Wise	THE POLITE LITTLE PENGUIN	Harper	1.75	574
Disney, Walt	BAMBI	Simon & Schuster	1.00	596
Doane, Pelagie, Illus.	THREE PRAYERS	Grosset & Dunlap	1.00	574
Field, Rachel	CHRISTMAS TIME	Macmillan	.50	591
Forbell, Charles H.	MYSTERY PICTURE MAKER	Dodd Mead	2.00	596
Fox, Frances Margaret	LEGENDS OF THE CHRIST CHILD	Sheed & Ward	1.50	544
Harper, Wilhelmina - Ed.	BROWNIE AND THE CIRCUS	David McKay.	2.00	495
Harris, Joel Chandler	BRER RABBIT	Harper	1.50	494
Kreis, Hans	THE PICTURE PUZZLE STORY BOOK	Barnes	2.00	574
Le Grand	SATURDAY FOR SAMUEL	Greystone	1.25	494
Raymond, Louise	THE OLDEST STORY IN THE WORLD	Little Brown	1.50	575
Silverman, Stanley H.	*DEXTER	Simon & Schuster	1.50	495

STORY BOOKS FOR THE 9 TO 12 YEAR OLDS

Anderson, C. W.	HIGH COURAGE	Macmillan	$1.75	575
Erskine, Gladys Shaw	RIDING THE TOM TOM TRAIL	Morrow	1.75	496
Le Grand	*AUGUSTUS AND THE MOUNTAINS	Bobbs Merrill	1.75	496
Richardson, Myra Reed	SHEEP WAGON FAMILY	McBride	2.00	576
Rounds, Glen	*THE BLIND COLT	Holiday House	2.00	496
Savage, Alma	SMOOZIE	Sheed & Ward	1.50	496
Sutton, Margaret	A SHEPHERD BOY OF AUSTRALIA	Grosset & Dunlap	.50	496
White, Robb	SAILOR IN THE SUN	Harper	2.00	496

FACT BOOKS FOR THE 9 TO 12 YEAR OLDS

Dawson, Lucy	DOGS ROUGH AND SMOOTH	Grosset & Dunlap	1.00	576
Eberle, Irmengarde	FAMOUS INVENTORS	Barnes	2.00	545
Harris, Leila & Kilroy	SUNNY AUSTRALIA	David McKay	.50	497
Penfield, Thomas	GUARDIANS OF AMERICA	Rand McNally	1.00	497
Quinn, Vernon	*PICTURE MAP GEOGRAPHY OF SOUTH AMERICA	Stokes	1.50	497
Smith, Etta May	SALUTE THE FLAG	Albert Whitman	1.00	497
Snell, Roy J.	MONKEYLAND	Reilly & Lee	1.00	597
Sondergaard, Arensa	A HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES	Random House	1.00	497
Strack, Lilian Holmes	MAGIC MINERALS	Harper	1.00ea	576
Thomas, Leslie	LONG MAY IT WAVE	Morrow	2.00	576
Washburn, Stanley, Jr.	BAMBOO TO BOMBERS	Whitman	1.00	591
Wheeler, Opal	*STEPHEN FOSTER	Dutton	2.00	497

FOR THE 12 TO 15 YEAR OLDS - *Fiction*

Bice, Clare	JORY'S COVE	Macmillan	2.00	576
Hamlin, John	BY PADDLE WHEEL AND PACK TRAIN	Lippincott	2.00	497
Howard, Elizabeth	*SABINA	Lothrop Lee & Shepard	2.50	576
Le Grand	GLORY HORN	McBride	2.00	577
Meigs, Cornelia	*VANISHED ISLAND	Macmillan	2.00	498

FOR THE 12 TO 15 YEAR OLDS - *Non-Fiction*

Chavanne, R. N.	DAVID FARRAGUT	Coward McCann	2.00	498
Cournos, John	A BOY NAMED JOHN	Scribner	1.75	546
Curtis, Anna L.	STORIES OF THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD	Island Workshop Press Co-Op.	1.75	498
Dalgliesh, Alice	**WINGS AROUND SOUTH AMERICA	Scribner	2.50	498
Harding & Hylander	AN INTRODUCTION TO TELEVISION	Macmillan	2.00	545
Hylander & Harding	AN INTRODUCTION TO TELEVISION	Macmillan	2.00	545
Leeming, Joseph	*BRAVE SHIPS OF ENGLAND AND AMERICA	Nelson	2.50	546
Pratt, Fletcher	FIGHTING SHIPS OF THE U.S. NAVY	Garden City	1.00	597
Shenton, Edward	*THE NEW ALPHABET OF AVIATION	Macrae Smith	1.75	545
Stephenson, D. M.	PATRICK	Reilly & Lee	2.00	597

FIFTEEN AND UP - *Fiction*

Bell, Kensil	COAST GUARD CADETS	Dodd Mead	2.00	546
Bugbee, Emma	PEGGY COVERS THE CLIPPER	Dodd Mead	2.00	577
Raymond & Zylstra	SKYLARK	Dodd Mead	2.00	577
Riesenberg, Felix Jr.	*FULL AHEAD!	Dodd Mead	2.00	498
Sabin, Edwin L.	PIRATE WATERS	Lippincott	2.00	498
Slater, Florence C.	*BETSY YATES: REALTOR	Dodd Mead	2.00	577
Strang, Steve	DUDE RANCHER	Dodd Mead	2.00	546
Zylstra & Raymond	SKYLARK	Dodd Mead	2.00	577

FIFTEEN AND UP - *Non-Fiction*

Benet, Laura	YOUNG EDGAR ALLAN POE	Dodd Mead	$2.50	577
Cleveland & Graham	*YOUNG AMERICA'S AVIATION ANNUAL	McBride	2.00	592
Daugherty, James	IN THE BEGINNING	Oxford	2.00	592
Gall, Alice Crew	IN PEACE AND WAR	Crowell	2.00	547
Graham & Cleveland	*YOUNG AMERICA'S AVIATION ANNUAL	McBride	2.00	547
Hubler, Richard G.	*LOU GEHRIG	Houghton Mifflin	2.00	578
Lambert, Clara	I SING AMERICA	John Day	2.50	547
Nott, Stanley	THE YOUNG CHURCHILL	Coward McCann	2.50	546
Nutchuk	*SON OF THE SMOKY SEA	Messner	2.50	499
Rogers, Agnes	FROM MAN TO MACHINE	Little Brown	2.50	547
Shuler, Knight, Fuller	*LADY EDITOR	Dutton	2.00	547
Walker, John B.	*WAR IN THE AIR	Random House	1.00	499

REPRINTS, NEW EDITIONS, AND INEXPENSIVE JUVENILES

Busoni, Rafaello-Illus.	DICK WHITTINGTON AND HIS CAT	Grosset & Dunlap	.50	495
Custer, Elizabeth B.	BOOTS AND SADDLES	Harper	1.50	545
Halliburton, Richard	COMPLETE BOOK OF MARVELS	Bobbs Merrill	3.00	495
THE REAL MOTHER GOOSE		Rand McNally	2.00	545

ADULT BOOKS FOR OLDER BOYS AND GIRLS - *Fiction*

Cavan, Romilly	BENEATH THE VISITING MOON	Coward McCann	2.50	499
Falstaff, Jake	THE BIG SNOW	Houghton Mifflin	2.00	548

ADULT BOOKS FOR OLDER BOYS AND GIRLS - *Non-Fiction*

Allen, E. & Kelley, F. B.	FUN BY THE TON	Hastings House	2.50	598
Downey, Fairfax	INDIAN FIGHTING ARMY	Scribner	3.50	499
Early, Eleanor	SHE KNEW WHAT HE WANTED	Waverly House	1.75	598
Forbes, Esther	PAUL REVERE	Houghton Mifflin	3.75	548
Grabbe & Sherman	OUTDOORS WITH THE CAMERA	Harper	2.50	578
Guyton, Boone T.	AIR BASE	Whittlesey House	2.50	578
Hoyt, A. Maria	TOTO AND I	Lippincott	2.50	499
Johnson, Osa	FOUR YEARS IN PARADISE	Lippincott	3.50	578
June, Larry	THE PHOTOGRAPHER'S RULE BOOK	Macmillan	1.25	548
Kelley, F.B. & Allen, E.	FUN BY THE TON	Hastings House	2.50	598
Lovette, Comm. L. P.	SCHOOL OF THE SEA	Stokes	3.00	578
Maule, Frances	GIRL WITH A PAYCHECK	Harper	2.00	548
Ray, E.L. & Washburn, S.	ARE YOU FIT TO BE A PILOT?	Wilfred Funk	2.00	592
Seabrook, William	DOCTOR WOOD	Harcourt Brace	3.75	598
Starr, Julian Jr.	50 THINGS TO MAKE FOR THE HOME	Whittlesey House	2.00	548
Train, Arthur	THE STORY OF EVERYDAY THINGS	Harper	3.50	548
Tunis, John R.	THIS WRITING GAME	Barnes	3.00	547
Vassos, John	DOGS ARE LIKE THAT	Dutton	2.50	592
Washburn, S. & Ray, E.L.	ARE YOU FIT TO BE A PILOT?	Wilfred Funk	2.00	592
Whipple, Leon	HOW TO UNDERSTAND CURRENT EVENTS	Harper	3.00	592
Wood, Marni	PARTIES ON A SHOESTRING	George W. Stewart	1.50	598

BOOKS FOR USE BY PARENTS AND TEACHERS

Jagendorf, M.	PENNY PUPPETS, PENNY THEATRE, AND PENNY PLAYS	Bobbs Merrill	2.00	578
Johnson, Emilie F.	*A LITTLE BOOK OF PRAYERS	Viking	1.00	592

BULLETIN FROM

Virginia Kirkus' Bookshop Service 439 East 51st Street

Vol. IX December 1, 1941 No. 23

FALL JUVENILE SUPPLEMENT: No. 20 - *Part Two*

Note:- This is the last issue of the year to contain juvenile books. The next juvenile supplement will come with the February 1st issue, unless Spring publications are scheduled earlier and available earlier than usual. Accompanying this issue is the final Juvenile Check List, designed not as an index to the juvenile books of the year (the regular indexes with issue bulletin take care of that), but as a final chance to check stock, to be sure that no important juvenile has been overlooked. To those of you to whom juvenile books are a big factor in the holiday season - A Merry Christmas!

BOOKS TO READ ALOUD (6 - 9)

Forbell, Charles H. MYSTERY PICTURE MAKER Dodd, Mead
Pictures of America

Included under this head, because children from six up should be able to carry out the instructions for the use of this novel sort of drawing and tracing book, while almost no children under third grade would be able to read the instructions to themselves. An ingenious method for making a rather complicated picture, through tracing successive key plates on a transparency, and following this by painting according to a carefully planned chart. From the figure of the American eagle, on through the statue of Lincoln, Liberty, the Capitol and so on, this book includes various things that mean something in the United States of America. Good gift for convalescents. $2.00

Disney, Walt - *adaptor* BAMBI Simon & Schuster

The famous modern classic, a novel by Felix Salten, has been adopted by young people as their own. Now, in this simplified and Disneyfied version, even little children can enjoy the story, if it is read aloud to them. Disney has handled the material exceptionally well, with close enough adherence to the original to sustain its charm, and yet with omission of the philosophical overtones which make it difficult for little children. This makes it more definitely an animal story, as he recounts the adventures of Bambi and his friends. The front of the book contains four extra pages in full color, which can be removed and used for framing. Tie up with film release. $1.00

FIRST STEPS IN READING - Story Books

Neill, John R. THE SCANDALWAGONS OF OZ Reilly & Lee

Ersatz goods, these fabrications founded on and continuing the famous Oz stories by Frank Baum. Sorry, I can't take them, with their puns and plays on words, their smart-aleckyness and far-fetched complications, which carry, to my way of thinking, nothing of true fantasy. There's a modern twist to them that may intrigue some youngsters, and undoubtedly they continue to be good merchandise. This new volume tells further adventures of some of the old friends, introduces some new ones, and starts off with an invention of the "scandalwagons", the wizard's new vehicles. $1.50

FIRST STEPS IN READING - Fact Books

Hader, Berta & Elmer LITTLE TOWN Macmillan

Advanced second graders should be able to compass the vocabulary, with a few misses; third graders should find it straight going - and the content is to be highly recommended, particularly for children brought up in small towns rather than cities, where the hour by hour activities are familiar patterns. It is a good idea, this virtual timetable of an average family, - the father a commuter, the mother active in local affairs, two of the three children in school. The other people of the community, officials and plain inhabitants; the town doings - all have a familiar ring. But - seen as the pattern of one day, there is too much crowded into the 24-hours. The result is sure to be confusion for small readers. And - once again- the Haders are disappointing in their pictorial handling of people. Their settings, their animals, their color and decorative quality are, as always, charming. $2.00

FACT BOOKS FOR THE 9 - 12's

Snell, Roy J. MONKEYLAND: Betty and Billy visit Monkeys in the Tropics Reilly & Lee

Good factual material about all types of monkeys, from those in the East Indies to those in Central America and the West Indies. The facts are unobtrusively worked into the true story (or might be true story) of the two children who accompanied the curator of a Natural History Museum on a professional expedition to secure specimens, collect information, and so on. Illustrated with photographs. $1.00

FOR THE 12 - 15 YEAR OLDS - Non-fiction

Pratt, Fletcher FIGHTING SHIPS OF THE U. S. NAVY Garden City

Tie this in with the Creighton Peet book, *Defending America* (page 380), published by Harper, and giving an excellent general background on all our forces; and with Blakeslee's *Fighting Ships of the U. S. A.* (page 477), published by Random House, and rather misnamed, since it is a coverage of the organization of our Navy, rather than a book about ships alone. The three together will give any youngster approaching the teens the answers to all the questions he is likely to ask at the start of his investigations into the navy. This is specifically and exactly a picture book with descriptive text defining and illustrating the types of fighting ships, their tonnage, uses, and fighting equipment. Illustrated in color and line by Jack Coggins. $1.00

Stephenson, D. M. PATRICK, *Son of Thunder* Reilly & Lee
Biography of Patrick Henry

There is singularly little material for younger readers dealing with this firebrand democrat of Colonial Virginia, and this is an excellent introductory biography, covering only his boyhood and those early years of his success - long postponed, it seemed to his family - in his chosen field of law and backwoods politics. The story ends with his fiery speech - "Give me liberty or give me death!" Good picture of a frontier boyhood, of odds and ends of school days, of successive failures as farmer, store apprentice, store keeper - and of the incident which led to his choosing law, and - regardless of obstacles - achieving his goal. Tom Jefferson comes into the story - and indirectly many other famous figures of his times. Occasionally, one senses an odd class conscious and money conscious element that jars the story telling; but for the most part it is good, slightly fictionized biography. Illustrated with decorative line drawings by Emilie De Beukelaer. $2.00

ADULT BOOKS FOR OLDER BOYS AND GIRLS
Non-fiction

Seabrook, William DOCTOR WOOD: *Wizard of the Laboratory* Harcourt, Brace

Scientists may take exception to this light-hearted biography of a dramatic figure, the leading authority on "physical optics". But whatever the value of this book as a survey of his work, it has a definite value as a career book with an inspirational character for any boy interested in the field of science. Dr. Wood, genius, showman, practical joker - and scientist - makes ideal material for Seabrook, and in the course of his life, Dr. Wood has made signal contributions to civilization. A full report appears on page 584, November 15th issue. $3.75

Allen, E. & Kelley, F. B. FUN BY THE TON Hastings House

The perfect book about circus elephants for anyone of any age who likes elephants (and who doesn't?). An old hand at the big top tells of his experiences and of the facts he has discovered which explode many of the long held ideas about elephants, and advances lots of new information. From the history of elephants in the U. S. A. and of famous individual elephants, on to their training, breeding, doctoring; to killers and their deeds. This should be a pushover with boys. Photographs. (For full report see page 589, November 15th issue.) $2.50

Wood, Marni PARTIES ON A SHOESTRING George W. Stewart

The party editor of *American Home* presents a seasonal round of good ideas for parties, with homemade decorations, budget planned menus, keyed to a collection of party food recipes. Suggestions for games and entertainment, largely home-made; for holidays, buffet parties, picnics, children's parties, showers, etc. Particularly useful as a general book for High School age youngsters who want to plan their own parties "on a shoestring". (For fuller report see page 586, November 15th issue.) $1.50

Early, Eleanor SHE KNEW WHAT HE WANTED Waverly House

For those who discount marriage as a career in the minds of most normal High School girls, this book does not belong here. But for the others, here is a good suggestion of a book for a girl who plans to have a business career, but who doesn't want to cut out other possibilities. What to wear, how to keep house in a kitchenette apartment, suggestions for food and entertaining - and throughout the psychological background for "girl meets man", handled with a light touch and an undercurrent of sound common sense. (For fuller report see page 585, November 15th issue.) $1.75

For Future - or Present - Reference

If you are buying January titles on adult lists which might fit the High School reading interests, check reports on titles listed below. The briefs on these reports will be run in the next Juvenile Supplement.

Wodehouse, P.G. (Doubleday, Doran)	MONEY IN THE BANK (1/9)	Page 556
Richmond, Winifred V. (Farrar)	MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR PERSONALITY (1/12)	" 586
Smith, Henry L. (Knopf)	AIRWAYS (1/5)	" 566
August, John (Little, Brown)	ADVANCE AGENT (1/21)	" 580
Edmonds, Walter D. (Little, Brown)	YOUNG AMES (1/19)	" 579
Shute, Nevil (Morrow)	PIED PIPER (1/5)	" 553